

RHODOS

H.

RHODES UNIVERSITY STAFF NEW SLETTER

27 October 1995 Vol 7 No 10

Woods: 'I look forward to returning'

Rhodes Vice-Chancellor-elect, Professor
David Woods, says that he is looking
forward to returning to Rhodes and
Grahamstown at the beginning of May next year.

"My wife, Charlotte and I are both delighted and very excited about moving back to Rhodes", he said while commenting to Rhodos after accepting his appointment. "It is a superb university with much potential to contribute to the future development of South Africa. I look forward to working with all the staff and students to make Rhodes an outstanding university in the African and international context", he added.

Prof Woods accepted the position late on Tuesday afternoon, 17th October and the news was released within minutes by the Marketing and Communications Division. Efforts were made to allow for its immediate broadcast by Rhodes Music Radio and local radio stations so that staff and students would hear it as soon as possible – it was after normal working hours – and, early the next morning, notice of the appointment was circulated by the Personnel Division. A copy of the press release was posted to the ru.announce newsgroup on the Wednesday morning.

Prof Woods said that he saw the appointment as a "fantastic opportunity" to apply his expertise towards entrenching and enhancing Rhodes' position of excellence. He and his wife, Charlotte, a biology teacher at Bishops in Cape Town, are Old Rhodians.



Professor David Woods.

Prof Woods completed his schooling at Michaelhouse in KwaZulu/Natal, before reading for BSC and Honours degrees, which he achieved with distinction, at Rhodes. He was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship which took him to University College, Oxford, where he completed a DPhil degree.

He returned to Rhodes in 1967, where he became Professor and Head of the Department of Microbiology. In 1980 he and his whole Department were invited to move to the University of Cape Town, where he became Professor and Head of the Department of

Microbiology, Director of the Molecular Biology Institute and the Director of the FRD/ UCT Microbial Genetics Research Unit. He was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of research at UCT in 1988.

Prof Woods is an internationally recognised scientist and is one of South Africa's few A-rated scientists. He is in demand as a speaker at international conferences and sits on the Research Task Group of the National Commission on Higher Education. He is also a member of the Council of the Foundation for Research Development (FRD), the Committee of University Principals Research Committee and the National Science and Technology Forum. He also occupies seats on many decision-making bodies concerned with his scientific discipline.

Earlier this year he received the John F W Herschel Medal for outstanding research from the Royal Society of South Africa: that body's highest award. He currently chairs the Search and Selection Committee for the appointment of the President of the FRD and he has been elected to the 12-person Council of the South African Academy of Science.

Prof Woods will assume his responsibilities at Rhodes on May 1, 1996.

Details concerning his installation have, obviously, yet to be decided but the Director of Marketing and Communications, Ms Aletta de Villiers, has said that she hopes this will be able to take place as soon as is practical.

Public Holidays - Senate to decide

In spite of a gratifying percentage poll recorded during the recent plebiscite on public holidays – or perhaps because of it – there has not been a particularly strong indication from staff and students as to whether or not Rhodes should remain open or closed on public holidays.

One of the four options tested does not, however, find much favour and that would have allowed for partial closure – for half a day as an example.

The other three options, business as usual; total closure or closure excepting the residences (catering and kitchen facilities) all attracted measurable support from those who cast their votes.

Some one-third of the students voted, more than half of the administrative staff and significantly more than half of the academic staff, says Mr Andrew Cook, who coordinated the plebiscite.

While the published results show that less people favoured remaining open than were attracted to either of the two 'closed' options, the

Registrar, Dr Steve Fourie, says that there is not really sufficient strength in favour of any course of action for Senate to make a decision.

As a result, he has canvassed several representative bodies seeking their stance. Amongst those who had replied by the time *Rhodos* went to print were the SRC; NEHAWU, whose members did not vote in the plebiscite; the Student Press Union; PASO of Azania; the Hindu Students' Society and SASCO.

Dr Fourie believes that this extra input will facilitate Senate's task and feels confident that a decision will be reached at its November 24th meeting.

The six relevant public holidays are Human Rights Day (21 March), Constitution Day (27 April), Workers' Day (1 May), Youth Day (16 June), National Women's Day (9 August) and Heritage Day (24 September).



Letters to The Editor

Rhodos invites correspondence on matters of concern to the University community which will indicate the wide spectrum of views held and will promote further discussion.

A pseudonym is acceptable, but the writer must supply his or her full name and residential address to the editor, who will respect confidentiality.

Volunteers wanted

The Editor,

We need help to run two rehabilitation programmes, one, an exercise programme and the other an occupational therapy programme aimed at the rehabilitation of our son, Alan Haydock who is recovering from brain injury in Barratt Wing 1: Settlers Hospital.

The exercise programme will require 45 minutes per week of each person or team. There are two sessions per weekday and a morning session on Saturdays. During the week, morning sessions are held at any time between 09h00 and 11h30 and those in the afternoons from about 14h15 to 15h00. The therapy comprises simple exercises. No expertise is required and a qualified physiotherapist will demonstrate.

The Occupational Therapy Programme requires from 30 to 45 minutes per week. There are daily sessions are held at any time between about 15h00 and 16h00. Alan needs someone to talk to him, help him to use the computer, help him to read, encourage him to form words with his lips, take him for walks in the wheelchair, arm wrestle (right arm only) and to keep him constructively occupied. Someone who could assist with any or all of the above activities is needed.

Would anyone prepared to assist please phone Laraine Haydock 31 1586 (h) ext 8157 (w) or John Haydock at the same home number or at work at ext 8430.

John Haydock

RHODOS DEADLINE DATES

Copy Date 3 November Publication Date 10 November

Copyright and the World Wide Web

As a result of a letter received from a firm of patent attorneys, Rhodes University has been obliged to restate its policy of compliance with the provisions of the Copyright Act.

The letter received has drawn the attention of the University to an infringement of copyright through the use of a representation of the well-known cartoon character Garfield, by a student on our campus, through its use and availability on a personal WWW home page.

The attorneys represent the local interests of the American copyright owners. Their letter, received by the Registrar, points out that their clients would be entitled to institute proceedings against the University and the student concerned in the Supreme Court, seeking damages and costs as well as a restraining interdict.

While this course of action is not to be embarked upon immediately, the letter demands action and assurances from Rhodes and the student which will result in the removal of all reproductions of the Garfield character from all computers owned or operated by Rhodes and the assurance that similar violations of copyright will not occur in the future.

It is of particular concern to the copyright owners that once such material is posted to the World Wide Web, it makes possible the further illegal reproduction of work throughout the world, adding to the "plethora of infringement" which exists today.

The University has given the required assurances and, in a circular from the Registrar to all staff and students, re-affirmed its policy of compliance with the provisions of the Copyright Act.

Commenting on the incident, the Vice-Principal, Dr Michael Smout, said that there is extremely sophisticated search software available which enables the holders of copyright in written and graphic works to track violations of this nature efficiently and within a very short space of time of the misuse. It is quite possible to search the entire Internet effectively, he said. He warned that, while the current complaint pertained to one specific cartoon character, it is obviously possible for similar searches to be made in respect of other copyrighted material. The use of such material on the Internet is being carefully monitored, he said, and anyone using a computer at Rhodes should be aware that the penalties for unauthorised use are extremely severe. The lawyers' letter states that while the suspected infringement may have occurred in ignorance of the fact that it was unlawful, it remains illegal and, in their opinion, actionable. Staff and students are asked to comply immediately by removing any copyrighted material from their computers.

Promoted to Senior Staff

Five staff members from Grounds and Gardens have been promoted to senior staff, an event which pleases the Director of the Estates Division, Mr Les Reynolds, greatly.

Mr Reynolds was speaking at a function at which he also handed over certificates to four members of the Grounds and Gardens team. Three have recently completed the Practical Contract Course in Landscape Design of the Technikon RSA. Their Manager, Mr Mark Hazell, also received a certificate from the institution in appreciation of his assistance in the completion of the practical part of the course on our campus, by his own staff members and other students from all over South Africa.



Those whose promotions and awards were celebrated at the function are seen above with Mr Les Reynolds (second from left) and secretary Ms Kim Mills. They are Khoyo Memani, Michael Mkolo, Patrick Khadi*, Alfred Kashi, Elijah Ntentile* and Luc Maréchal*. With them (third from left) is Mark Hazell*. (* indicates receipt of certificate)

'Reconciliation a priority', says new SRC President

The marketing of our University is, in part, a distinct responsibility of its students, says Vasco Zama Ndebele, the new President of the Rhodes SRC.

While this utterance will please many, especially the Marketing and Communications Division, he qualifies it by adding that a prerequisite to successful marketing is personal belief in the product.

While the new SRC has yet to meet to formulate its strategy and identify its priorities, Mr Ndebele sees the subject of reconciliation as its prime mission. "A collective effort is needed to address this matter between students, academic and administrative staff, workers, the community and the other groups and bodies concerned with the future of the University", he says. This is in line with the recommendations by the Commission on Higher Education, he feels, which suggest the establishment of transformation forums on campuses throughout the country.

Concurrently, he believes, the issues of transformation need to be progressed. From reconciliation will come constructive work in this area, he says. "All of Rhodes' constituencies must seriously come to terms with the need for commitment to reconciliation", he says. "We must work together; we must sing from the same hymn sheet."

Mr Ndebele is a second-year BA student who wishes to study Law. A South African who completed his schooling in Zimbabwe, he came to Rhodes on the advice of friends and was particularly attracted by its international reputation, he says.

He did not seek the presidential nomination this early in his academic career, he admits, "but I enjoy committee work and student governance. I certainly aspired to a seat on the SRC and have 'put in time' gaining constructive experience on the committees of several societies last year, including SASCO, Voices of Glory and AIESEC."



Vasco Zama Ndebele

He welcomes the challenge of leading the SRC and rebuilding its credibility, which he admits has been weakened. "We need to reestablish its image, and the process must be constituency-driven", he believes. "The SRC's programmes must be student directed."

Speaking further on the subject of marketing, he says that there are some constructive things which Rhodes is doing which are not known widely enough. One of these is the use of the new, alternative admissions tests. These are of benefit to disadvantaged students, he says, but not nearly enough people are aware of them. He also feels that not enough people know about the Supplementary Instruction programme.

Other issues which Mr Ndebele and his Council wish to address include AIDS awareness and community development. With regard to the latter, he believes that students can be encouraged to make a contribution and that individual and collective specialisations and skills need to be focused. "If people work collectively, solutions can be discussed and agreed upon, thus avoiding chaos and wasted effort."

Mr Ndebele feels that the University's constitution – its rules as published in the calendar - need revisiting, especially in the light of the national situation. Some of the existing rules he finds blatantly sexist, he says, and in conflict with the country's own new constitution.

A further wish of his is for better communication; between students, staff at all levels, the community and other representative groups. He would like to see closer links develop between our own two campuses as well as between all tertiary educational institutions in the Eastern Cape.

Mr Ndebele is an active sportsman and plays soccer and basketball.

His responsibilities, both defined and adopted, as SRC President will be consuming of time and energy, he admits. He has the team to do the job in his fellow councillors, he believes, and they are ready to face up to the year ahead.

Public lecture and videos

Dr Alan Whitfield, the Assistant Director of the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology, will present an illustrated public lecture during Marine Week 1995 entitled Estuaries – the vital link between land and sea.

It will be delivered on Thursday, 2 November, at 19h30 in the Lecture Room at the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology

A series of videos will be shown at the Institute throughout the day on Marine Day (3 November 1995). The programme is as follows:

09h00: Knysna, the Embattled Estuary

10h00: Coastal Processes and Dynamics

10h30: Shark Encounters (National Geographic)

11h45: The Great Whales (National Geographic)

14h30: Common Marine Life of Africa's Indian Ocean

15h15: Marine Reserves

15h45: A Fragile Harmony - The West Coast National Park.

Rhodos understands that the ICHTHOS shop at the Institute will be open all day for those seeking something different in the way of Christmas gifts and that free Marine Day posters will be available while stocks last.



Rhodos, 27 October 1995

Photojournalism goes online



Prof Rich Beckman (right) talks with Prof G Parolis of the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences after the slide presentation on grizzly bears and other Alaskan wildlife.



SITUATION NEEDED

Reliable, honest domestic worker, wonderful with children, seeks employment from December 1995 or preferably January 1996. Phone Mrs Perold at ext 8465.

NEED FURNITURE REPAIRED

Furniture repairs at very reasonable prices can be undertaken by the male therapy section at Fort England Hospital. Adrienne Whisson at ext 8358/9 has details, otherwise phone Fort England direct at 2 7003 and ask for male therapy.

DOMESTIC WORKER SEEKS EMPLOYMENT

Careful, caring, energetic domestic worker, with us for 14 years, seeks Wednesday Job a.s.a.p. Washes and irons, cooks, does general cleaning, etc. Loves children and dogs.

ADVERTISING RATES

Display ads: R 2,50 per column centimetre; double for front and back pages.

Classifieds: 10 cents per word unless a bona fide staff member is advertising in his or her personal capacity, in which case no charge is levied. Advertising is run strictly on a cash

Copy, which is only accepted in writing, should be forwarded with payment to the Marketing and Communications Division.

Wonderful person. Please phone Wendy Dore at 2 4083 (until 30 November), or Ian Dore at ext 8279 (until 15 December).

BED and BREAKFAST

In Johannesburg's northern suburbs. Charming, newly furnished twin-bedded accommodation with own entrance; bathroom en suite, opens onto private patio, walking distance to shops and restaurants, 10 minutes from Wits, RAU and Wits Tech, metered phone, bar fridge, lock-up parking. Single: R 140,00; per person sharing: R 115,00. Phone (011) 442 8083.

SITUATION NEEDED

Our domestic worker is looking for employment as we are leaving town. She is a lovely cheerful person to have around. Responsible and can write and read English; can also cook. Highly recommended. Phone Joan Mitchell at ext 8569 or 2 4988 after hours. The Photojournalism section of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies has been 'online' this month with the help of two visiting lecturers from the United States.

Prof Rich Beckman and Ms Ami Vitale have been training students in electronic publishing. Their goal is to get the documentary projects of photojournalism students on to the Department's home page on the World Wide Web.

This will take the form of an electronic publication, called *Exposure Online*, an extension of photojournalism's print publication, *Exposure*.

Prof Beckman is a professor of journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA, and head of their visual communication sequence. He is also a freelance photojournalist. While at Rhodes he presented a wildlife slide show entitled My Time with the Grizzlies, a record of his last three summers in Alaska observing the habits of grizzly bears. His fine photography included many photographs of the Alaskan wilderness, humpbacked whales and walruses in addition to those of the grizzlies.

Ms Vitale is National Photo Editor and Weekend International Editor for Associated Press in New York. Before moving to New York, she was Southeast Regional Photo Editor for Associated Press, editing and planning photo coverage for 12 southeastern states.

Ms Vitale lectured on picture editing while at Rhodes.

Rhodos invites contributions from staff members and other readers.

Articles should be forwarded to the Editor, at the Marketing and Communications Division.

Articles are preferred on diskette in any of several common formats, including ASCII, Word Perfect and Xywrite. Text may also be e-mailed to *rhodos @.ru.ac.za*.

Photographs and line art are also welcome, either as stand-alone items or illustrative of articles.

RHODOS STAFF

Editor: Chris Walwyn
Tel: (0461) 31 8457
Fax: (0461) 31 1902
e-mail: rhodos@ru.ac.za

RHODOS is produced fortnightly by the Marketing and Communications Division of Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, Rhodos staff, or the University. The Editor welcomes all contributions but reserves the right to edit these.